

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Each CAM of a retrieving device according to the present invention has one output terminal and four input terminals. One of the four input terminals is pulled down to input a logical value 0 at all times. The other three of the input terminals are connected to output terminals of other CAMs. Prior to starting auto-store processing, each CAM recognizes a terminal that inputs an output from a CAM having a higher priority than the CAM itself on the basis of an input signal [ABCD] including initial signals and the logical value 0 from the input terminals. On the basis of a result of the recognition, each CAM performs auto-store processing. Thereby auto-store processing can be readily performed by a plurality of CAMs.

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